

MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI
SUBJECT: Argentina Alert Item

While we are eager to build good relations with Argentina, the current human rights situation is so dismal that our relations may be reaching a breaking point. We have taken a number of steps to show our great concern about the human rights situation there--including the recent decision by the U.S. Export-Import Bank to deny financing for a large hydro-electric project, the suspension of FMS to Argentina, and our abstentions on the loans in the IFI's. Argentina is presently negotiating with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and if they reach agreement, we will go ahead with many of these items. But we fear that if they don't reach agreement soon--i.e., before the October 1 deadline of the Kennedy-Humphrey amendment to bar military sales and training--our relations may be set back irreparably. We are currently looking into a new strategy to break the deadlock.

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP
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